Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend p. 5, lines 13-22 as follows:

Referring now to FIGURE 2A, the router 110 connected to the OXC 115. The router 110 includes a working port 205 and a protection port 210. The OXC 115 is connected to the DWDM 120 via OXC working ports 215, a spare physical layer 220, and a spare service layer 225. The working ports 205 and 215 are used to transmit data from and to the router 110. If a failure occurs between the OXC 115 and the DWDM 120, in Fig. 1, then the OXC 115 detects the failure and connects the working port 205 to the Spare Physical Layer 220 ~~210~~. If a failure occurs between the router 110 and the OXC 115, the router 110 detects the failure and uses the protection port 210 to transmit the data. The protection port 210 is connected by the OXC 115 to the Spare Service Layer 225.

Please amend p. 5, lines 23-30 and p. 6, lines 1 and 22 as follows:

Referring now to FIGURE 2B, there is illustrated a block diagram of a router 110A and a router 110B, both of which are connected to an *axe* 115. The OXC 115 is connected to the DWDM 120, as shown in Fig. 1, via OXC working ports 215, Spare Physical Layer 220, and Spare Service layer 225. The primary router 110A is used to transmit data via the OXC working <u>port</u> ~~porter~~ 215. If a failure occurs between the OXC 115 and DWDM 120, then the OXC 115 detects the failure and connects the primary router 110A to the

Spare Physical Layer 220 via path 221. If a failure occurs between the routers 110 and the OXC 115, then the router 110A detects the failure and alerts the router 110B. The router 110B is used to transmit the data and is connected by the OXC 115 to the Spare Service Layer 225 via path 226.